

REMARKS

A Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is submitted herewith.

In the Office Action dated January 3, 2006, claims 1-12 and 19-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over U.S. Patent No. 6,527,050 (Sask) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,494,260 (Petegem) or U.S. Patent No. 6,481,494 (Dusterhoft); and claims 17 and 18 were rejected under § 103 over Sask in view of Petegem or Dusterhoft and U.S. Patent No. 6,302,209 (Thompson).

Applicant acknowledges the indication that claims 13-16 contain allowable subject matter. Claim 13 has been amended from dependent form to independent form, with the scope of claim 13 remaining unchanged to place claim 13 in condition for allowance.

Withdrawn claims 22-37 have been cancelled, without prejudice, in favor of submission in divisional applications.

It is respectfully submitted that amended independent claim 1 is allowable over cited references Sask, Petegem, and Dusterhoft. Sask was cited by the Office Action as disclosing the creation of a local transient underbalance condition in the well interval. Claim 1 now recites that creating the local transient underbalance condition in the well interval is accomplished by using at least one of: opening at least one port to a *sealed container* containing a low pressure, where the sealed container is lowered into the wellbore by a carrier line; communicating the wellbore interval with a choke line containing low density fluid, where the choke line is associated with subsea well equipment; and providing a chamber of a perforating gun as a sink for fluids from the wellbore interval.

In contrast, Sask teaches the use of a multi-position fluid control valve 28 (Sask, 9:20) that can be set at multiple positions (see Figs. 5A-5E of Sask). Fig. 5B of Sask shows a fluid injection position, where fluid is injected from tubing through a valve bore 44 and out through a flow channel 52 to the surrounding formation. Sask, 11:4-8. Fig. 5C of Sask shows a surge position in which fluid flows through fluid channel 52 into the valve bore 44 and out through fluid channel 53 into the wellbore above packer 23. Sask, 11:8-12. The surge depicted in Fig. 5C does not constitute opening one port to a sealed container containing a low pressure, or communicating the wellbore interval with a choke line (associated with subsea well equipment) containing low density fluid, or providing a chamber of a perforating gun as a sink for fluids from the wellbore interval.

The other two cited references, Petegem and Dusterhoft, also do not disclose or suggest the manner of creating a local transient underbalance condition recited in claim 1. Therefore, since the hypothetical combination of the cited references does not disclose or suggest the claimed subject matter, claim 1 is non-obvious over the references.

Newly added independent claim 38 is part of the elected invention. Claim 38 recites subject matter of former claim 1, plus the following element has been added: applying the treatment fluid comprises controlling a rate of application of the treatment fluid using a time release mechanism that is part of an applicator tool lowered into the wellbore. None of the cited references disclose or suggest this feature, and therefore, claim 38 is allowable over the cited references.

Dependent claims of claim 1 are allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

Allowance of all claims is therefore respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees and/or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504 (SHL.0141P2US).

Respectfully submitted,

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